



Premier of Ontario – Premier ministre de l'Ontario

January 2006

A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to congratulate the Vietnamese Canadian Federation (VCF) on the launch of the Vietnamese Boat People Museum Project.

In Ontario, we celebrate difference and thrive on diversity. I would like to commend the Vietnamese community for its many invaluable contributions to the social, cultural and economic life of our province. Take pride in knowing that you have made Ontario — and Canada as a whole — an even better place to live.

Each newcomer community in Canada has its own special story to tell, its own unique history to record. With the inauguration of the Vietnamese Boat People Museum Project, the VCF and its member organizations across Canada will have the opportunity to document for posterity the history of Vietnamese Canadians: from their perilous flight from their homeland 30 years ago to their resettlement, challenges and triumphs in Canada.

This project will not only serve as an enduring legacy of the Vietnamese Canadian experience, but also will pay tribute to the community's remarkable capacity to flourish in its adopted country and to the many Canadians who demonstrated generosity, openness and understanding toward those refugees who sought safe haven here.

It takes a great deal of hard work and collaborative effort to initiate an undertaking of this scale. I would like to give due and deserved recognition to the VCF and its members nationwide for initiating this vital project.

Please accept my best wishes for every success with the Vietnamese Boat People Museum Project.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dalton McGuinty'.

Dalton McGuinty
Premier